# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI

HILL, et al.,	)
Plaintiff,	) )
v.	) Civil Action No: 3:14-cv213-SA-RP
HILL BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION	)
COMPANY, INC., et al.,	)
Defendants.	) )

# MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES, EXPENSES AND INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

COME NOW Plaintiffs Robert K. Hill, Donald Byther, Sandy Byther, Keith Clark, Samuel Copeland, B.T. Erve, Percy Evans, George Flakes, Scott Goolsby, Sheila Kelly, Paul Leonard, Fred Smith, Dewayne Toliver, Ulysses Wiley, and Warlfoyd Winters (hereinafter "Class Representatives" or "Plaintiffs") and Class Counsel, Matthew Y. Harris (hereinafter "Harris"), Diandra Debrosse Zimmermann (hereinafter "Debrosse), Edgar C. Gentle, III (hereinafter "Gentle"), L.N. Chandler Rogers (hereinafter "Rogers") and Sterling DeRamus (hereinafter "DeRamus"), (collectively referred to herein as "Class Counsel"), having been appointed Class Counsel for preliminary approval purposes [Dkt. 269], and hereby respectfully move this Court to enter an Order awarding attorney's fees, expenses and incentive payments to class representatives:

1. The Plaintiffs and Class Counsel move this Honorable Court to enter an Order awarding attorney's fees from the proposed settlement amount in the amount of Two Hundred Eighty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars and Thirty Three Cents (\$283,333.33);

- 2. The Plaintiffs and Class Counsel move this Honorable Court to enter an Order awarding expenses to Class Counsel to be reimbursed from the proposed settlement amount in the amount of \$42,828.37;
- 3. The Plaintiffs and Class Counsel move this Honorable Court to enter an Order awarding incentive awards to each Class representative in the amount of Two Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00);
- 4. As discussed more fully in a supporting memorandum brief, the requested fees and expenses are well within the range of fees awarded in common fund class action cases such as this.
- 5. In support of this Motion for Attorney's Fees, Expenses and Incentive Payments to Class Representatives, Plaintiffs would rely on their Memorandum Brief, which is being filed contemporaneously, and the following Exhibits which are attached hereto and incorporated into said Motion by reference:

Exhibit 1: Memorandum of Settlement Agreement;

Exhibit 2: Class Action Settlement Agreement;

Exhibit 3: Declaration of Diandra Debrosse-Zimmerman;

Exhibit 4: Declaration of Edgar C. Gentle, III;

Exhibit 5: Declaration of Matthew Y. Harris;

Exhibit 6: Declaration of L.N. Chandler Rogers;

Exhibit 7: Declaration of Sterling R. Deramus;

**WHEREFORE,** Plaintiffs and Class Counsel respectfully request that this Honorable Court enter an Order awarding:

1. Attorney's fees from the proposed settlement amount in the amount of Two

Hundred Eighty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars and Thirty Three Cents (\$283,333.33);

- 2. Expenses to Class Counsel to be reimbursed from the proposed settlement amount in the amount of \$42,828.37;
- 3. Incentive awards to each Class representative in the amount of Two Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00); and
- 4. All further relief which this Honorable Court deems proper.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED**, this the 11th day of July, 2017.

/s/ Matthew Y. Harris
MS STATE BAR NO. 99595

/s/ L.N. Chandler Rogers MS State Bar No. 102543

/s/ Diandra S. Debrosse Zimmermann AL State Bar No. ASB-2956-N76D Admitted Pro Hac Vice

/s/Edgar C. Gentle, III
AL State Bar No. ASB-0349-E68E
Admitted Pro Hac Vice

Sterling L. Deramus
AL State Bar No. ASB-6781-R60S
Admitted Pro Hac Vice

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

#### **OF COUNSEL:**

#### THE LAW OFFICES OF MATTHEW Y. HARRIS, PLLC

218 South Denton Road, Suite A New Albany, Mississippi 38652 (662) 539-7381 (voice) (662) 539-7012 (facsimile) mharris@myharrislaw.com

# ROGERS LAW GROUP, P.A.

201 East Bankhead St. New Albany, Mississippi 38652 (662) 538-5990 - telephone (662) 538-5997 - facsimile chandler@rogerslawgroup.com

## **ZARZAUR MUJUMDAR & DEBROSSE – Trial Lawyers**

2332 2nd Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203 (205) 983-7985 (voice) (888) 505-0523 (facsimile) fuli@zarzaur.com

## GENTLE, TURNER, SEXTON, AND HARBISON

Suite 100-501 Riverchase Parkway East Hoover, Alabama 35244 (205) 716-3000 (voice) (205) 716-3010 (facsimile) escrowagen@aol.com

#### STERLING L. DeRAMUS

2229 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. North Birmingham, Alabama 35203 (205) 504-0189 (voice) (205) 449-7392 sderamus@deramuslaw.com

#### **CERITIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on July 11, 2017, the foregoing was filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which sent notifications of such filing to all counsel of record:

Diandra S. Debrosse Zimmerman, Esq. fuli@zarzaur.com

Matthew Y. Harris, Esq. mharris@myharrislaw.com

Edgar C. Gentle, III, Esq. escrowagen@aol.com

Sterling L. Deramus, Esq. sderamus@deramuslaw.com

John S. Hill, Esq. jhill@mitchellmcnutt.com

Stuart S. Davis, Esq. sdavis@rayburnlaw.com

Lawrence J. Tucker, Jr., Esq. lawrencetucker@hickmanlaw.com

William B. Raiford, III, Esq. will@chapman-lewis-swan.com

Scot Spragins, Esq. SSpragins@hickmanlaw.com

John Booth Farese, Esq. jbooth@fareselaw.com

Ralph Chapman, Esq. ralph@chapman-lewis-swan.com

Guy Mitchell, Esq. gmitchell@mitchellmcnutt.com

Kenneth H. Coghlan, Esq. kcoghlan@rayburnlaw.com

**SO CERTIFIED**, this the 11th day of July, 2017.

/s/ L.N. Chandler Rogers